

REMARKS

In the Office Action, the Examiner withdrew the claims 9 - 13 from consideration, rejected claims 1 and 2 as obvious over the Soth reference, and indicated that claims 3 - 5 are directed to allowable subject matter.

Telephone Interview

Applicants thank the Examiner for the courtesies extended during the telephone interview and for the efforts to set up a personal interview in this case. In the telephone interview, the Examiner and Applicant's representative discussed the withdrawn claims 9 - 13, a proposed addition to claim 1 and various avenues for further prosecution.

35 USC 103(a)

Applicants respectfully disagree with the Examiner as to the obviousness of the claimed features over the teachings of the **Soth** '959 reference. However, the rejection has been rendered moot by the cancellation without prejudice of the rejected claims.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claim 3 has been redrafted into independent form by incorporating thereinto the limitations of the claims from which it depended. Claims 4 and 5 depend therefrom. As such, claims 3 - 5 are in form for allowance.

Conclusion

Applicants respectfully request favorable reconsideration and allowance of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,


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